

2003 Calendar of Events

Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area

January - October

Traditional Arts Workshops

Join us for these great workshops that offer a unique opportunity to learn traditional and primitive art forms from expert instructors! Pre-registration will be required in addition to an instructor and materials fee.

March - October

Guest Naturalist Tour & Lecture Series

Throughout the year, area naturalists will be joining us at varied times to share in their areas of expertise. Guided tours, hikes, talks, and field trips will explore the park and other areas of natural interest.

*Last Saturday of each month
except July, November, & December*

Last Saturday Concerts

Our continuing series of performances highlight the talents of traditional musicians, cloggers, storytellers, and more. These events meet in the theater of Sycamore Shoals. Please call the park for a listing of scheduled entertainers and times. Admissions Charge

*Fridays in July
July 11, 18, & 25*

Colonial Kids

Spend a day at the Carter Mansion for a day of historical & natural activities for young people ages 10 - 14. Registration is limited to 10 each week/Small fee for each session.

April - October

Sunday Jams at the Carter Mansion

Last Sunday of the Month 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Our open pickin' and sharin' session is open to musicians of all levels, dancers, listeners, and toe tappers! Join us for this home-style gathering!

*Saturdays in October
October 4, 11, 18, & 25*

Bird Walks w/ Lee & Lois Herndon TOS Chapter

8:00 a.m

Meet these wonderful birders and naturalists at Sycamore Shoals for a morning of birding during the migratory season.

January 4
Saturday

Chipping of the Greens
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bring your Christmas tree down to the lower parking lot at the Visitors Center and the city will chip it into mulch. Save room in the landfill and take home a garbage bag of mulch for your yard. Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

January 11 & January 12
Saturday & Sunday

Winter Garrison at Fort Watauga
10:00 am

Join Hardin's Rangers, a French and Indian War period re-enactment group, at Fort Watauga for a living history look into the 18th century. Featuring a multitude of frontier life demonstrations that you can participate in!

February 8 & February 9
Saturday & Sunday

Fort Garrison
10:00 am

The Company of Overmountain Men will garrison at Fort Watauga and present insights into life of the backwoods Militia during the Revolutionary War. Join us for drill, cooking, battle demonstrations, and much more.

Mar 1 & Mar 2

Exhibition

Saturday 9 - 4:30

Sunday 1 - 4:30 sun

Mountain Empire Model Railroaders

Completely handmade railroad scenes can be enjoyed at Sycamore Shoals this weekend as this artistic and talented group shares their work with us. Be sure to check out this unique exhibit which depicts natural and community scenes.

Thursday, April 3 6:00 pm

Saturday, April 5 9:00 am

Landscape Seminar

Plant Auction

This event features a seminar on Thursday evening in the park theater, introducing the ornamental plant materials that will be available for auction on Saturday. The Saturday auction in the theater will feature unusual ornamental and native perennials, trees, and shrubs to beautify the home or business landscape. The UT Extension Service, E.Tenn. Nursery Assoc., and the Eliz/Carter Co. Chamber of Commerce sponsor the event.

May 10

Saturday 8:00 am

Guest Naturalists!- Birding with the Lee &Lois
Herdon TOS Chapter.

Check out the spring migratory birds with Carter County's most talented birders!

May 17 & May 18
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am **Muster at Fort Watauga**

The revolutionary War comes to life at the site of the muster of the Overmountain Men prior to the Battle of King's Mountain. American And British re-enactors along with Native American Allies from all over the Southeast will demonstrate life on the western frontier during the late 1700's. Battle demonstrations both afternoons. Sponsored By the Company of Overmountain Men and the Watauga Historical Association.

June 7 & June 8
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm **Sycamore Shoals Native American Festival**

A two days celebration of our Native American Heritage. Come and discover the arts, music, dance, crafts, legends and stories of our Native Americans with emphasis on the Cherokee culture. Admissions Charge

Month of July **Fine Arts Show with the Watauga Valley Art League**
Monday - Saturday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Stop by the museum at Sycamore Shoals to view the beautiful artwork of the Watauga Valley Art League. Local artists display their talents during the entire month of July.

July 10–12, 17–19, 24-26
Thursday – Saturday **“The Wataugans” Outdoor Drama**
Silver Jubilee Performance!

Don't miss Tennessee's official outdoor drama, depicting the 18th Century settlement of Northeast Tennessee. Presented each year by local performers in the shadow of Fort Watauga. The drama tells the story of the major events surrounding the Watauga Settlement on the grounds they actually happened. Seating is available in the Fort Watauga Amphitheater and performances begin evenings at 7:30 pm. Admissions Charge. Sponsored by the Watauga Historical Association.

August 3
Sunday 9:00 am **Elizabethton Butterfly Count**

Join naturalist, Don Holt for this day long winged adventure. Come for all or part of the day. Sponsored by the Xerces Society & Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park. (Rain Date: Sunday, August 10)

August 9

Carter Mansion Celebration

Saturday

10:00 am – 4:30 pm

Join us at the oldest frame house in Tennessee, the beautiful Carter Mansion, located on Broad Street Extension for a day of music and fun. The detailed interior of this house, built around 1775, is unparalleled in Tennessee.

September 6 & September 7

Sycamore Shoals Celtic Festival

Saturday & Sunday

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday Concert

8:00 pm Admissions Charge

Come celebrate our Celtic heritage that fills our lives in the mountains of East Tennessee. Clans and: Family Societies will be on hand to help with family history, there will be dance, music, food, vendors, demonstrations, reenactments of 18th & 19th Century heritage, lectures, and a special musical concert on Saturday evening all with a focus on our Celtic culture. Admissions Charge.

September 13 & September 14

23rd Annual Traditional & Primitive

Sat: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Arts Festival

Sun: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

A celebration of our past, present, and future, as we explore the early arts and skills of our ancestors. Two days of traditional demonstrations, craft sales, food, music, clogging, storytelling, and more. Spinning, weaving, flint-knapping, basketry, natural dyeing, and primitive pottery are but a few of the many fascinating skills to be demonstrated!

September 20 & September 21

Overmountain Victory Trail Celebration

Saturday & Sunday

10:00 am

Join us for an encampment by the Company of Overmountain Men militia before the Battle of King's Mountain in 1780.

September 25

Overmountain Victory Trail March

Thursday

Members of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association have recreated the historic march of the Overmountain Men since 1975. This year the marchers will cross the Watauga River at Sycamore Shoals, just as the militia did 220 years ago for the muster before they rode to victory at King's Mountain. Approximate time of crossing the river is 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm.

October 4 & October 5

Fort Watauga Knap-In

Saturday & Sunday

10:00 am – 4:30 pm

Help us celebrate Tennessee Archaeology Week at Fort Watauga with demonstrations of how pre-historic man made stone tools and weapons. Displays of replicated primitive artifacts and demonstrations with primitive weapons such as bow and arrow and atlatl fill the days. Come and make your own projectile points!

October 10 – 12

Sycamore Shoals Quilt Show

Friday & Saturday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

This three day exhibition, sponsored by the Sycamore Shoals Stitchers, features a show and demonstrations by local quilters held in the park museum. Bed quilts, wall hangings, holiday and baby quilts, miniatures and antique quilts will be on display.

October 18

The Haunted Fort

Saturday

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Come on down to Fort Watauga and join the Drama Club from Roan Mountain's Cloudland High School for a hauntingly fun time! These talented actors and actresses will present an entertaining, but not too scary, Halloween adventure. A small donation will be requested.

October 30

Scary Stories at the Carter Mansion

Thursday

7:30 pm

Strange things happen around the time of All Hallows Eve, especially in a graveyard. Join us for tales of woe and terror, the weird and macabre, with a touch of wit thrown in for good measure. Don't be afraid, the graveyard at the Carter Mansion isn't haunted, we don't think!

November 7 - 9

Christmas Craft Show

Friday

10:00 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Don't miss this tremendously popular craft extravaganza just in time for Christmas. Forty-eight local craftsperson's exhibit and demonstrate their talents with a Christmas twist. Held in the park visitor center.

*November 15 – 16
Saturday-Sunday*

Thanksgiving Garrison at Fort Watauga
10:00 am

Join us as Hardin's Rangers provide a glimpse into the past with an 18th century Thanksgiving at Fort Watauga. Lots of food and demonstrations.

Month of December

Winterfest Christmas Tree Exhibit & Art Show

Opening Reception! Sunday, Dec. 7 1:30 pm

Monday - Saturday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

This event opens with a reception to view the trees, artwork, and an opportunity to meet the artists. The exhibit features Fraser fir Christmas trees decorated by local organizations with handmade ornaments. The Watauga Valley Art League displays the artwork.

December 12

Christmas at the Carter Mansion

Friday 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Spend the evening in this 18th century home built on the frontier around 1775 featuring the beautiful interior craftsmanship decorated for Christmas in the style of 1780. Costumed interpreters, candlelight, refreshments, and music highlight the evening. Admission is \$1.00/person, maximum \$2.00/family. Sponsored by the Watauga Historical Association.

*December 13 & 14
Saturday & Sunday*

Christmas Garrison at Fort Watauga
10:00 am

Ring in the Christmas season with the Company of Overmountain Men as they celebrate with living history demonstrations of the 18th century in the backwoods of Colonial America.

For additional information, or to be added to our mailing list, please call or write:

Herb Roberts, Park Manager or Jennifer Bauer, Park Interpretive Specialist

Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area

1651 West Elk Avenue

Elizabethton, TN 37643

423-543-5808 – Sycamore Shoals

423-543-6140 – The Carter Mansion